

Ibérica

F O R A F R E E S P A I N

In this issue

THE MINERS ARE HEARD

A Letter from Asturias

THE BATTLE OF THE INTELLECTUALS

*The Minister of Information Replies
Other Letters of Protest*

THE ANTI-INTELLECTUAL CAMPAIGN

Dionisio Ridruejo

AN OPEN LETTER TO SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK

Henrique Galvão

EDITORIAL

Achievements of "Organic Democracy"

UNCENSORED

The Great Mobilization

SUMMARY OF NEWS

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ALLIES ARE SPLIT ON POLARIS BASE

(From The New York Times, Nov. 5, signed by Jack Raymond)

NAPLES, Italy, Nov. 4:—Spain's ill-repute with several members of the Atlantic Alliance has been holding up United States efforts to find a home base for three Polaris missile submarines assigned to the alliance last spring.

The nuclear-armed and powered undersea craft were assigned to the Mediterranean when land-based, 1,500-mile intermediate-range ballistic missiles were withdrawn from Greece and Turkey last spring, with the explanation that they were obsolete.

But no base or anchorage has been available for the newly assigned missile submarines because of political and military reasons. As a consequence, at the cost of one day's steaming time, the three submarines on the Mediterranean patrol have been forced to use a base at Holy Loch, Scotland.

The United States is negotiating with Spain for the use of the huge base at Rota, in the Bay of Cadiz, built by the United States at a cost

of more than \$250 million. The agreement for the submarines will be in addition to an overall agreement for surface ships that was renewed last September.

According to one report, the Polaris base agreement is close if it has not already been achieved. Polaris submarines already have quietly sailed into the harbor at Rota in a test.

When the terms are disclosed, however, they may prove to be a masterpiece of legal euphemism. The Spanish Government has been unwilling to agree to the use of the base by ships assigned to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The attitude of the Spanish developed from their resentment over failure to be accepted as a member of the alliance.

Opposition of NATO Members

At the same time, certain members of NATO not only have opposed Spanish membership but have also refused to sanction the use of the base in Spain for ships assigned to the alliance.

The Western foes of Spain, led by Norway and Denmark, are

understood to have assailed the proposed use of Rota as a NATO base during a stormy meeting of the Atlantic Council in Paris.

The opposition maintained that Spain's fascist dictatorship made her ineligible even for indirect association with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

MODERNIZATION OF SPANISH ARMY

MADRID, Oct. 31, *Ibérica*:—In a recent speech General Martín Alonso announced plans for a forthcoming reorganization of the Army into units of great mobility along the lines of the classic Spanish brigades.

According to the Minister, this change will produce a surplus number of officers, however, "they will be transferred to other services."

POLICE CHIEF TO BE AMBASSADOR IN MADRID

PARIS, Oct. 25, *Ibérica*:—Some newspapers here have printed a rumor circulated in political circles, namely, that very shortly the Chief of the Paris Police, M. Papon, will be made Ambassador to Madrid.

ANOTHER LETTER OF PROTEST

The following letter was sent in October to signers of the original letter of 102 intellectuals asking for an investigation of reports that miners in Asturias were being tortured for suspected involvement in strike movements. This letter is signed by 49 distinguished Spanish professors, writers, artists, etc., living outside of Spain, for the most part in France and England.

Señores Vicente Aleixandre and Pedro Lain:

"The undersigned wish to associate ourselves with the letter you and another hundred Spanish intellectuals sent to the Minister of Information and Tourism of the Spanish Government, requesting an investigation of the alleged tortures which have apparently been inflicted on several Asturian miners and their wives.

"They further wish to point out that the publication of that letter has coincided with the arrest in Madrid of university personages Angel Fernández Santos, Javier Pradera, Gabriela Sánchez-Mazas de Pradera, José

Sánchez-Mazas de Pradera, and his wife, and Fernando Sánchez Drago and several students;

"They wish to point out that there has never been an investigation into the circumstances of the death of the poet Moreno Barranco in the prison at Jerez last February;

"They desire that the investigations into the aforementioned reports be carried out with juridical and moral guarantees proper to a State of Law and not be limited to obscure reports prepared secretly by the very administration which is responsible for the occurrences to be clarified;

"They refuse to accept the tendentious and false explanations given by the Minister of Information and Tourism in the form of a letter addressed to the signers, and call attention once again to the absolute lack of objectivity and integrity of the Spanish Information Service, keeping Spaniards in the dark as to matters of the greatest importance and violating constantly one of the fundamental human rights.